

For Office Use Only
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs

EOEA No.: *14120*
MEPA Analyst: *Holly Johnson*
Phone: 617-626-*1023*

ENF Environmental Notification Form

The information requested on this form must be completed to begin MEPA Review in accordance with the provisions of the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act, 301 CMR 11.00.

Project Name: Cobb Brook Relocation Project		
Street: West Water Street		
Municipality: Taunton	Watershed: Taunton River Watershed	
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: North American Datum (NAD) 1983	Latitude: 41.90°N	Longitude: 71.09°W
Estimated commencement date: April 2008	Estimated completion date: November 2008	
Approximate cost: \$2 million	Status of project design: 50 %complete	
Proponent: City of Taunton, Public Works Department, Fred Cornaglia		
Street: 90 Ingell Street		
Municipality: Taunton	State: MA	Zip Code: 02780
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: Fred Cornaglia		
Firm/Agency: City of Taunton, Public Works Dept.	Street: 90 Ingell Street	
Municipality: Taunton	State: MA	Zip Code: 02780
Phone: 508-821-1434	Fax: 508-821-1437	E-mail:

- Does this project meet or exceed a mandatory EIR threshold (see 301 CMR 11.03)?
 Yes No
- Has this project been filed with MEPA before?
 Yes (EOEA No. 6232) No
- Has any project on this site been filed with MEPA before?
 Yes (EOEA No. 6232) No
- Is this an Expanded ENF (see 301 CMR 11.05(7)) requesting:
- a Single EIR? (see 301 CMR 11.06(8)) Yes No
 - a Special Review Procedure? (see 301 CMR 11.09) Yes No
 - a Waiver of mandatory EIR? (see 301 CMR 11.11) Yes No
 - a Phase I Waiver? (see 301 CMR 11.11) Yes No

Identify any financial assistance or land transfer from an agency of the Commonwealth, including the agency name and the amount of funding or land area (in acres): **SRF – Construction, City of Taunton funding – Design**

Are you requesting coordinated review with any other federal, state, regional, or local agency?
 Yes (Specify MassDEP, ACOE, Conservation Commission) No

List Local or Federal Permits and Approvals: **City of Taunton Order of Conditions, Chapter 91, Army Corp of Engineers, Mass Historical Commission, Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program**

Which ENF or EIR review threshold(s) does the project meet or exceed (see 301 CMR 11.03):

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rare Species | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wetlands, Waterways, & Tidelands |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water | <input type="checkbox"/> Wastewater | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Energy | <input type="checkbox"/> Air | <input type="checkbox"/> Solid & Hazardous Waste |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ACEC | <input type="checkbox"/> Regulations | <input type="checkbox"/> Historical & Archaeological Resources |

Summary of Project Size & Environmental Impacts	Existing	Change	Total	State Permits & Approvals
LAND				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Order of Conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Superseding Order of Conditions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chapter 91 License <input type="checkbox"/> 401 Water Quality Certification <input type="checkbox"/> MHD or MDC Access Permit <input type="checkbox"/> Water Management Act Permit <input type="checkbox"/> New Source Approval <input type="checkbox"/> DEP or MWRA Sewer Connection/ Extension Permit <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Permits <i>(including Legislative Approvals) – Specify:</i> Army Corp of Engineers Mass Historical Commission
	Approx. 17			
New acres of land altered		0		
Acres of impervious area	Approx. 6	0	Approx. 6	
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		0		
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		Approx. 42,800 s.f.		
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		0		
STRUCTURES				
Gross square footage	0	0	0	
Number of housing units	0	0	0	
Maximum height (in feet)	0	0	0	
TRANSPORTATION				
Vehicle trips per day	0	0	0	
Parking spaces	0	0	0	
WATER/WASTEWATER				
Gallons/day (GPD) of water use	0	0	0	
GPD water withdrawal	0	0	0	
GPD wastewater generation/ treatment	0	0	0	
Length of water/sewer mains (in miles)	0	0	0	

Notes:

General note – Impacts are based on preliminary/conceptual designs prepared during the early planning phase of the proposed project and may change as design progresses.

CONSERVATION LAND: Will the project involve the conversion of public parkland or other Article 97 public natural resources to any purpose not in accordance with Article 97?

Yes (Specify _____) No

Will it involve the release of any conservation restriction, preservation restriction, agricultural preservation restriction, or watershed preservation restriction?

Yes (Specify _____) No

RARE SPECIES: Does the project site include Estimated Habitat of Rare Species, Vernal Pools, Priority Sites of Rare Species, or Exemplary Natural Communities?

Yes (Specify Based on review of the Massachusetts Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program 2005 Natural Heritage Atlas and MassGIS datalayers, the project area includes portions of a Priority Sites of Rare Species [PH84]; see attachments for location of Priority Habitats of Rare Species.) No

HISTORICAL /ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES: Does the project site include any structure, site or district listed in the State Register of Historic Place or the inventory of Historic and Archaeological Assets of the Commonwealth?

Yes (Specify) No

If yes, does the project involve any demolition or destruction of any listed or inventoried historic or archaeological resources?

Yes (Specify _____) No

AREAS OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN: Is the project in or adjacent to an Area of Critical Environmental Concern?

Yes (Specify) No

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project description should include (a) a description of the project site, (b) a description of both on-site and off-site alternatives and the impacts associated with each alternative, and (c) potential on-site and off-site mitigation measures for each alternative (*You may attach one additional page, if necessary.*)

The scope of the proposed project is to relocate Cobb Brook to the south of the current location and provide a relatively straight connection with the Taunton River. The relocating consists of redirecting the open-channel portion of the brook south of the railroad tracks and installing approximately 750 linear feet of a reinforced concrete box culvert. The culvert will be designed to carry the peak flow from the 100-year storm. The purpose of the project is to mitigate the problematic flooding from Cobb Brook in the industrial area of West Water Street and Fifth Street. The existing Cobb Brook culvert system has deteriorated over the years and currently has inadequate capacity to convey stormwater flows generated within the contributing watershed. Currently, in the project site area, Cobb Brook flows through a series of open-channel segments, culverts, and under existing buildings.

Several studies and assessments were performed by the United States Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service for the Cobb Brook watershed. These studies are Cobb Brook Floodplain Management Study and the Cobb Brook Watershed and Environmental Assessment. Several alternatives were researched as part of the studies.

One alternative is to take no action, therefore during flood events West Water Street industrial area will be flooded on a yearly or more frequent basis and will continue to be impassable.

Another alternative considered is to rehabilitate the existing culvert system beneath the tannery building, West Water Street, and the TMLP parking area. This alternative is not feasible because the soil beneath the tannery building very likely has high concentrations of heavy metals, thus creating a potentially hazardous working environment and excavation-material disposal problems. Also, the brook's location underneath the tannery building prevents City access and prohibits increasing the capacity of the culvert system. Additionally, a clean up of portions of the brook was completed in 2001 under the Brownsfields Assessment Pilot Grant, where an area adjacent to the brook contained buried contaminated soils. Therefore, this limits the available area to construct these improvements.

Other alternatives included relocating Cobb Brook through different sizes of culvert which could carry different storms. Other sizes investigated are 6 foot wide by 4 foot high box culvert, 48 inch diameter culvert, and a 42 inch diameter culvert. If a smaller culvert is used, then there is a greater chance that the West Water Street industrial area will be flooded and will continue to be impassable. No off-site alternatives were investigated because no off-site alternatives would remedy the flooding impacts from Cobb Brook.